

MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE

LICENSING FOR DRIVERS UNDER AGE 18

Iowa has a graduated driver's license (GDL) system for drivers under age 18. The GDL includes three steps that provide experience to improve driving skills. **These steps include:**



YOU ARE HERE

Driving yourself to school is an adult responsibility that you need to take seriously to keep you and others safe and protect your privilege to drive.

HOW DO I GET A MINOR SCHOOL LICENSE?

- **Be at least 14 ½ years old.**
- **Complete an Iowa-approved driver education course.**
- **Hold an instruction permit and a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for your minor school license.**
- **Live 1 mile or more from the school you are enrolled in, unless a special need exists.** If you have more than one residence, where you live is the location you reside the majority of the time.
- **You must have your school superintendent, principal, or school board chair AND your parent or guardian sign an Affidavit for School License (form 30021)** available at any driver's license issuance site or by searching the form number at <https://forms.iowadot.gov/BrowseForms.aspx>.
- **You may also be required to complete a drive test at the driver's license issuance site.**

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

This license allows you to drive *without* adult supervision between the hours of 5 a.m. and 10 p.m. for the following.

- **Drive from your home to your school(s) of enrollment or school sponsored activities using the most direct and accessible route.** Activities must be at the school(s) you are enrolled in.
- **Drive to a school that is not your school of enrollment to participate in extracurricular activities conducted at that school under a sharing agreement with your school of enrollment.**
- **Drive to and from your home to the closest school bus stop.**
- **Stop for fuel on route or at the closest station off route.**

You may also drive at any time with adult supervision. Adult supervision means your parent, guardian, custodian, an immediate family member at least 21 years of age, a driver education instructor, or a person at least 25 years of age with written permission from your parent, guardian, or custodian. The supervising adult must possess a valid driver's license.

WHAT CAN'T I DO WITH THIS LICENSE?

- Use any electronic communication or entertainment device while driving.
- Carry more than one minor passenger that is not a relative when driving *without* adult supervision.
A relative means someone that is your brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, or another minor living in your household.
- Drive to a school district you are not enrolled in for school or school-sponsored activities, unless your school has an extracurricular sharing agreement with that school district.
- Carry more passengers than the number of seat belts in your vehicle, even when driving with adult supervision.

HOW DO I ADVANCE TO THE NEXT STEP: AN INTERMEDIATE LICENSE?

- Be at least 16 years old.
- Hold an instruction permit (or instruction permit and minor school license) for at least 12 consecutive months.
- Maintain a clean driving record for at least six consecutive months immediately before applying for an intermediate license.
- Your parent or guardian must provide written consent.
Either in person at a driver's license issuance site or complete the Parent's/Guardian's Written Consent Form (form 430018).
- Complete 20 hours of supervised driving in addition to any driving you completed in driver's education. At least two of those hours must be between sunset and sunrise.

WHAT IF I MESS UP?

Your license will be suspended if you are convicted of a traffic violation (including, but not limited to, speeding, reckless driving, failure to obey a traffic sign), violate any of the restrictions on your license, or are involved in a crash you caused or contributed to.

- **First offense:** Your license will be suspended for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate your minor school license.
- **Second offense:** Your license will be revoked for 30 days and you must pay a fee to reinstate to an instruction permit for six months before you are eligible for a minor school license.

Any time you have a violation your six-month period to have a clean driving record will start over. Any time your license is suspended or revoked your 12-month period to hold an instruction permit (or combination of an instruction permit and minor school license) will start over.

MAKE GOOD DECISIONS

Drive at a safe speed, keep your eyes on the road, and your hands on the wheel. Put phones and other distractions away. Be sure your passengers are wearing seat belts and limit your number of passengers – every passenger you add drastically increases your risk of being in a crash.

Don't abuse your privilege – Drive only for permitted school activities using the most direct route.

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of teen deaths – don't let it happen to you and your friends!

Federal and state laws prohibit employment and/or public accommodation discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability, gender identity, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran's status. If you believe you have been discriminated against, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 800-457-4416 or Iowa Department of Transportation's affirmative action officer. If you need accommodations because of a disability to access the Iowa Department of Transportation's services, contact the agency's affirmative action officer at 800-262-0003.